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Atty. Docket No.: P66317US0

B3 and scope of the invention, and all such modifications as would be recognized by one skilled in the art are intended to be included within the scope of the following claims.---

IN THE CLAIMS:

L Please cancel claims 5, 10-13, 15 and 16 without prejudice or disclaimer, and amend claims 1, 7 and 14 to read as follows:

1. (Amended) An external urinary catheter device for the relief of male urinary incontinence, comprising:

B4 a contact member which is adapted to be engaged with at least the extreme portion of a penis;

an opening formed in a distal end section of the contact member and positioned substantially opposite the urethral orifice in the position of use;

a discharge conduit connected with the opening to provide a sealed urine flow passage extending in a substantial axial direction towards the exterior of the catheter device;

an aperture provided in a distal part of the contact member or in the discharge conduit;

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B4 a membrane fastened to the surface surrounding said aperture, the membrane being capable of selectively passing gases but retaining urine;

a shield at least partly protecting the membrane; and  
at least one vent arranged in a portion of said shield overlying said membrane for allowing gases to be in substantially unhindered contact with the external surface of the membrane.

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7. (Amended) A process for production of an external urinary catheter device for the relief of male urinary incontinence, which comprises the steps of:

B5 providing a catheter part including a contact member which is adapted to be engaged with a penis, an opening formed in a distal end section of the contact member and positioned substantially opposite the urethral orifice in the position of use, and a discharge conduit connected with the opening to provide a sealed urine flow passage extending in a substantial axial direction towards the exterior of the catheter device;

providing an aperture in a distal part of the contact member or in the discharge conduit;

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fastening a membrane to the surface surrounding said aperture, the membrane being capable of selectively passing gases but retaining urine;

providing a shield to protect the membrane; and

arranging at least one vent in a surface of said shield overlying said membrane for allowing gases to be in substantially unhindered contact with the external surface of the membrane.

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14. (Twice Amended) The external urinary catheter device according to claim 1, in further combination with:

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a bag for collection of urine discharged from the catheter device; and

a hose member connecting the catheter device and the bag.

7 Please add the following claims:

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- 17. (New) The external urinary catheter device according to claim 1, wherein the vent is embodied as a plurality of apertures in said portion of the shield overlying said membrane.

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18. (New) The external urinary catheter device according to claim 1, wherein the membrane is fastened to the surface

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surrounding the aperture with an element that provides a raised platform for the shield, forming an increased space between the shield and an external side of the membrane.

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(New) An external urinary catheter device for the relief of male urinary incontinence, comprising:

B7 a contact member which is adapted to be engaged with at least the extreme portion of a penis;

an opening formed in a distal end section of the contact member and positioned substantially opposite the urethral orifice in the position of use;

a discharge conduit connected with the opening to provide a sealed urine flow passage extending in a substantial axial direction towards the exterior of the catheter device;

an aperture provided in a distal part of the contact member or in the discharge conduit;

a membrane fastened to the surface surrounding said aperture, the membrane being capable of selectively passing gases but retaining urine;

a shield at least partly protecting the membrane; and

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at least one vent including at least one track arranged for allowing gases to be in substantially unhindered contact with the external surface of the membrane.

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20. (New) The external urinary catheter device according to claim 18, wherein the membrane is depressed in the discharge conduit and said track extends from the membrane to a point beyond the shield.

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21. (New) The external urinary catheter device according to claim 18, wherein the shield is tubular and said membrane is depressed in the discharge conduit, said vent including a plurality of tracks in an edge of the shield.

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22. (New) The external urinary catheter device according to claim 18, wherein the shield is tubular and surrounds at least part of the discharge conduit, said vent including a plurality of tracks formed in an inner face of said shield.

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23. (New) The external urinary catheter device according to claim 22, wherein said plurality of tracks are substantially parallel with a longitudinal axis of said discharge conduit. --